



**DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
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## **Delaware Crop Insurance Cost Share Funds Disbursed**

Delaware farmers recently received their Delaware Crop Insurance Cost Share Program payments for 2008. The Delaware Department of Agriculture (DDA) administers the program, which was funded for 2008 crops at \$750,000. The funding was increased 25 percent from the 2007 crop year.

“We are convinced this is the strongest crop insurance cost share program of any state in the country,” said Mark Davis, Deputy Principal Assistant at DDA, who handles the coordination of the program with the USDA Risk Management Agency (RMA). “It demonstrates a strong commitment to agriculture here in Delaware. In these tough economic times, farmers need all the help we can reasonably offer.”

The program is designed to pay up to 30 percent of the farmer paid premium for crop insurance, up to a maximum of \$3.00 per acre. If total calculated benefits exceed available funding, payments are prorated. For 2008, payments were prorated at 97.88 percent, making the maximum payment approximately \$2.93 per acre.

“The cost share program has been a success story for DDA,” said Davis. “It helps Delaware farmers obtain higher levels of crop insurance coverage. Better coverage has been very important the last several years, with periodic and persistent droughts affecting our production. Because our farmers are obtaining higher coverage levels, millions more is being replenished into our ag economy in crop insurance loss payments than otherwise might be the case.”

To date, over \$12.6 million has been paid to Delaware farmers through crop insurance indemnities for 2008 crops. This follows over \$17.4 million in indemnities for 2007 crops, a record for Delaware.

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